

89. *Crypturus variegatus* (Gm.).

Tetrao variegatus Gmelin, *Syst. Nat.* 1. ii. (1788) p. 768 (ex Daubenton, *Pl. enl.* 828—Cayenne).
Tinamus variegatus Pelzelo, *Zur Ornith. Brasil.* iii. (1869) p. 293 (Pará).

One ♂, not quite adult, January 19, 1904. No. 1914. "Iris brun."

Differs from several specimens from British Guiana, collected by the late H. Whitely, in its longer bill and in having the light bars on the upper surface much broader and of a much brighter fulvous colour. The blackish barring on the flanks, too, seems to be more restricted. A series is required, to confirm the constancy of these divergencies or otherwise.

NOTES ON *ZAGLOSSUS* AND DESCRIPTION OF A NEW
SUBSPECIES OF *ECHIDNA HYSTRIX*.

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DR. K. TOLDT, jun., has read a paper on the genus *Zaglossus* Gill = *Proechidna* Gervais, before the K.K. Zoologisch-botanische Gesellschaft, in Vienna, and in connection therewith wrote to me for particulars about my *Zaglossus nigroaculeata*. I had occasion, therefore, in order to settle several questions, to examine my series of nine specimens of *Zaglossus*, and I take the opportunity to give a key of the genus and make some remarks.

At first sight it became apparent that I had three very easily distinguishable forms, which not only differ among themselves, but show the same comparative differences as do the subspecies of *Echidna hystrix*. Although the genus *Zaglossus*, according to some authors, sinks owing to occasional specimens having five or four claws instead of three, I think the long curved "beak" and the extra-dorsal and lumbar vertebrae, 17 and 4 as opposed to 16 and 3, sufficiently warrant the upholding of the genus.

I have three specimens of each form of *Zaglossus*, young and old, and I am convinced of their distinctness. As all these specimens were procured by native hunters, the locality cannot be accurately ascertained, but there are in Dutch New Guinea several distinct faunal areas, so that I have no hesitation in declaring these three forms well separated and distinct "SUBSPECIES." I now give a key, for the better identification of these three forms.

ADULTS.

1. Head pale brown or white, sharply separated from rest of body, spines white : 2.
 Head and body uniformly dark, spines black : 3.
2. Hair pale brown, thick, long and woolly, completely hiding spines, except on flanks and shoulders : *Zaglossus bruijni villosissima*.
 Hair brownish black or black, short, thick, not hiding spines : *Zaglossus bruijni bruijni*.
3. Hair long, thin, bristly, spines somewhat flattened : *Zaglossus bruijni nigroaculeata*.

It has been stated by some authors that *Z. b. villosissima* (Dubois) is only the young of *Z. bruijni bruijni*, but my specimens show that the very old *villosissima* are more hairy and have the characters pointed out by Dubois more exaggerated, both than in his type and in my young (?) examples.

It may interest students to know that Professor Giglioli, when on board the Italian frigate "Magenta," bought in Java a skin of *Zaglossus bruijni bruijni*, which he gave to the Turin Museum. Although he was told it came from New Guinea, this was not believed, and the stuffed specimen stood for many years labelled as *Echidna setosa*, and was only recognised years after the type skull was described by Peters and Doria.

***Echidna hystrix multiaculeata* subsp. nov.**

Differs from *E. h. hystrix* at first sight by its much paler colour and much more numerous spines. The spines in *E. h. hystrix* are somewhat separated, very thick, tapering quite suddenly to a point, and are whitish yellow, the anterior fourth being deep black. These spines are thickly interspersed with brownish black hairs, while the hair on the head, legs and underside is deep brown. The spines in my new *E. h. multiaculeata*, on the other hand, are exceedingly numerous, very long and thin, pale buff, tipped with horn-colour, and tapering gradually to a long point. They are interspersed with thin yellowish brown hairs, and the hairs on the head, legs and underside are pale clay-brown.

Habitat : Extreme south of South Australia.

I have seen and handled more than thirty of this form, all alike, and the two consignments which reached England contained over a hundred specimens.

Dr. Ernst Hartert differs from me somewhat as to the specimens which I consider to be the young of *Zaglossus bruijni bruijni*. These individuals are smaller, and have the head dark like the back. Dr. Hartert is inclined to think that the differences of these specimens might as likely be those of sex as of youth; and there is certainly some doubt as to the question of age, as we have no means of comparing the skulls. In my original description of *Zaglossus nigroaculeata* (under the name of *Proëchidna nigroaculeata*) I quoted the names of *Proëchidna novaeguineae* and *Proëchidna leucocephala*. These names have never been published, and were quoted from a dealer's letter without confirmation.
